

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Syria/Palestine

DATE DISTR. 19 August 1948

SUBJECT Ill Will between the Grand Mufti
and Fawzi Qawuqji

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DATE OF INFO June-July 1948

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
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1. On 14 July it was reported that the Syrian Government had been informed that Hajj Amin Husayni, the Grand Mufti, had hired the Palestinians Bashir Tuqan and Subhi Abd-al-Qadir Shahin to assassinate Fawzi Qawuqji, Commander of the Liberation Army.

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2. The Grand Mufti believes that the deaths of Abd-al-Qadir Husayni, Liberation Army Commander of the Jerusalem sector (who was killed on 8 April), and Hasan Salamah, Commander of the Lydda area, were arranged by Qawuqji.

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3. General Taha Hashimi, a leader of the Liberation Army, said that Hasan Salamah was killed by a follower of Qawuqji because Salamah was an adherent of the Mufti and very influential among young Arab fighters. Qawuqji had arranged this assassination in compliance with the desire of King 'Abdallah of Transjordan to get rid of the influential followers of the Mufti.

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4. On or about 18 July, when Fawzi Qawuqji was informed of the plot to assassinate him, he became very agitated, and his conversation with source plainly showed that he had received other reports that the Grand Mufti was attempting to have him assassinated.

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5. Qawuqji was not thinking at that time of sending his guerrillas to assassinate the Mufti, but that such a plan might occur to Qawuqji, should his fears of assassination by followers of the Mufti increase.

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